

AFRICAN SAFARI 2016

MAY 22 - JUNE 2, 2016 ITINERARY (subject to change)

Monday 23 May: Arrive Johannesburg

Arrive at OR Tambo International Airport (ORTIA) at Johannesburg. You will be met and transferred to your hotel in the suburbs for an overnight stay.

After an early lunch you'll depart on a tour to the Apartheid Museum. For anyone wanting to understand and experience what South Africa was like the historic events of 1994, a visit to the Apartheid Museum is essential.

The Apartheid Museum, the first of its kind, illustrates the rise and fall of apartheid: The racially-prejudiced system that blighted much of its progress and the triumph of reason which crowned half a century of struggle. The Museum was assembled and organized by a multi-disciplinary team of curators, film-makers, historians and designers. The exhibits are from film footage, photographs, text panels and artifacts illustrating the events and human stories that are part of the epic saga, known as apartheid. There are 22 individual exhibition areas that take the visitor through a dramatic emotional journey that tells a story of a state-sanctioned system based solely on racial discrimination.

Accommodation: The Winston - deluxe rooms

Tuesday 24 May: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls

This morning you'll travel to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. You'll be met on arrival at Victoria Falls Airport and transferred to your hotel for a two-night stay. As you enter the hotel grounds, look for the monkeys that roam the premises! This afternoon you'll enjoy a guided walking tour of the Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

First stop is the Big Tree - a massive baobab many hundreds of years old with a girth of some 22 metres. The tour continues on to the Falls themselves, starting at Livingstone's statue and Devil's Cataract and proceeding through the rainforest to Danger Point. The total walk is 3kms with many spectacular viewpoints along the way.

Accommodation: Victoria Falls Safari Club - club rooms

Wednesday 25 May: Victoria Falls

You will be collected this morning for a full day tour to Chobe National Park in Botswana. Transfer across the Botswana River, completing immigration and customs formalities before continuing to the Chobe National Park. Cruise on the Chobe River where you should see elephant, crocodiles, pods of hippos and other game species coming to drink and bathe in the river, as well as many bird species.

Lunch at a lodge. The afternoon continues with a game drive in open vehicles into the Chobe National Park, with a chance of spotting lion and buffalo as well as numerous plains game species. Transfer back across the Zimbabwean border in the late afternoon.

Accommodation: Victoria Falls Safari Club - club rooms

Thursday 26 May: Victoria Falls - Johannesburg - Cape Town

This morning you will be collected for an elephant back safari. You'll be transferred to The Elephant Company reception for a 15-minute introductory talk on African elephants, their relationship with man, as well as on safety. You'll then be introduced to the elephants and their "Ndunas". After a short failiarisation with the elephants, the elephant back safari through the bush begins. Late morning you will be transferred to the airport for a return flight to Johannesburg and connecting flight to Cape Town.

You will be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel for a four-night stay.

Accommodation: The Hyde - deluxe suites

Friday 27 May: Cape Town

This morning your tour guide will collect you for a full day's sightseeing that can include a cable-car ride up Table Mountain (weather permitting) and then a trip to the winelands. Leaving Cape Town you'll proceed through the spectacular mountain scenery and lush fertile valleys of the Cape to Stellenbosch, South Africa's second oldest city. This oak-lined university town has a museum highlighting the remarkably diverse of architecture in the Cape from the 16th century. Visit Spier to see the eagles and other birds of prey, which you'll get a chance to hold! We then visit a kosher winery for a tour and tastings. The day can be spent combining a fascinating history with spectacular scenery and tastings at a kosher winery. Return to the hotel in time to prepare for Shabbat.

Accommodation: The Hyde - deluxe suites

Shabbat 28 May: Cape Town

Shabbat is spent in Cape Town, where we will visit two different synagogues. The Marais Road synagogue is spectacular, and features a choir. Beit Knesset Morasha exudes a warm, small-town atmosphere. After Shabbat, the group will be taken to the V&A Waterfront Mall. Return to the hotel thereafter for dinner.

Accommodation: The Hyde - deluxe suites

Sunday 29 May: Cape Town

Depart this morning on a full day sightseeing tour to Cape Point. This 25-mile drive to Cape Point includes a stop at Hout Bay, a beautiful fishing village from where a boat trip is made to Duiker Island, to see the mass of seals (optional and weather permitting). To arrive at Cape Point, you pass through the 7,750 hectare plant-rich expanse of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. This reserve is home to a variety of indigenous wildlife species including the Cape Mountain zebra, red lynx, caracal and a variety of antelope. In addition about five troops of chacma baboons frequent the area. There are also over 250 species of marine birds. While the reserve itself is stellar for its natural beauty, a trip to the peninsula is not complete without a visit to the massive and spectacular headland. Cape Point's trademark turbulent waters and 300-metre sheer cliffs encompass viewers who may be lucky enough to spot seals, whales and dolphins. Leaving the reserve we drive along the False Bay coastline to Boulders Beach, home of the largest Jackass Penguin colony in South Africa. Afterwards, a stop can be made at Simonstown a naval base (time permitting) and then it's back to the city via Boyes Drive. Group will then have a tour at the Jewish Museum and daven at the beautiful Gardens Shul.

Accommodation: The Hyde - deluxe suites

Monday 30 May: Cape Town - Game Lodge

This morning you'll fly to a game lodge. Check in for a three-night stay. The activities at the lodge include late afternoon game drives, early morning game drives and an optional bush walk after breakfast. The game drives are all conducted in an open 4-wheel drive Land Rover accompanied by professional rangers and trackers, ensuring an informative and stimulating safari experience. These drives are undertaken at times best suited for game viewing at the particular time of the year. The afternoon game drive departs at approximately 4.00pm and returns at approximately 7.00pm. The afternoon drives extend into the evening with the aid of spotlights to view seldom seen nocturnal species. Drinks and dinner follow.

Accommodation: Inyati Game Lodge - Chalet

Tuesday 31 May : Game Lodge

It's an early start for the morning game drive. As the early morning sun rises over the horizon, rangers and trackers head out with guests into the African bushveld. One can sense the excitement... who knows what to expect? A herd of ever-cautious impala huddled together, a leopard in the branches of a knobthorn tree with a kill from the last hours of darkness, a parade of elephants feeding in the lush vegetation or a pride of lions in the shade of an acacia. Tea/coffee are served prior to departing the lodge, and again there will be refreshments about mid-way through the drive. Return to the lodge for breakfast. Now you have the option of a bush walk, accompanied by an armed ranger. A wonderful way to learn about the flora and fauna of the area. Afternoon/evening program as per previous day.

Accommodation: Inyati Game Lodge - Chalet

Wednesday 1 June : Game Lodge

Another day to enjoy the tranquility of the bush and thrill of game viewing.

Accommodation : Inyati Game Lodge - Chalet

Thursday 2 June: Game Lodge - Johannesburg - Home

Early morning game drive followed by breakfast. Then it's time to pack up for your flight to Johannesburg. Arrive back at ORTIA. You'll be met and proceed to Lory Park Zoo, for some intimate encounters with animals that are being hand-raised, and Cambanos, the best place to buy all those souvenirs for your friends and family. You'll be returned to ORTIA after the excursion. Check in for the return Trans-Atlantic flight.

Important Trip Information

Please wait for confirmation that the trip has reached the minimum number of participants before booking air travel. Please note the start and end point of the trip and book travel accordingly. Africa begins and ends in Johannesburg.

Includes: Hotel accommodations; kosher food (3 meals a day); English speaking tour guides, and scholar in residence. All internal and regional travel as per itinerary attached, luxury coaches, flights economy class; Airport/hotel transfers as per itinerary; Activities as detailed in the itinerary; porterage (one bag per person); tips and gratuities.

Excludes: Transatlantic flights; VISAs (a visa is required for entry into Zimbabwe), All items of a personal nature (including phone calls, laundry, excess baggage, drinks and bar purchases apart from meal provisions).

Insurance: It is strongly recommended that all travelers take out comprehensive insurance to cover medical, personal, baggage, cancellation. While every effort is made to ensure smooth travels it is best to be covered for the unexpected.

Payment Due Date: Non refundable deposit is payable upon booking. Payment in full is due December 15th, 2015 or if booking after that date, upon booking.

Cancellation Fees: Deposits are non-refundable.

Cancellations up to 90 days prior date tour begins - 75% refund of balance; Cancellations up to 70 days prior date tour begins - 50% refund of balance; Cancellations up to 51 days prior to date tour begins no refunds

Price Increases: No price increases if paid in full. Until full payment is received, prices may increase up to 7% to cover unforeseen costs and/or currency fluctuations. If the total price of the travel services is increased and the cumulative price is more than 7% then the customer has a right to cancel and get a full refund.

Documentation: Canadian and American Citizens are required to present a valid passport in order to enter the destinations on this trip. Please note that entry to another country may be refused even if the required information and travel documents are complete. Passports must be valid for 6 months from date of return. For travelers who hold other passports visas may be required.

Living Standards: Please be aware that living standards and practices at the destination and standards and conditions there with respect to the provision of utilities, services, and accommodation may differ from those found in Canada and the United States.

*Note that all hotels and itinerary arrangements are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. In that case all efforts will be made to substitute those with equivalent or better quality items.

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